PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for transferring control between a first network

interface controller and at least a second network interface controller in a multiple

network interface device, the method comprising:

after the first network interface controller sends an identifier associated with a

memory location in the multiple network interface device to a second device and the

identifier and an associated data field are <u>subsequently</u> received by the second network

interface controller in the multiple network interface device from the second device,

receiving a message from the second network interface controller in the

multiple network interface device by a program component of the multiple network

interface device, the message indicating the reception of the identifier associated with

the memory location in the multiple network interface device and the associated data

field from the second device, wherein the second network interface controller has no

knowledge of the identifier and the associated data field, and wherein the first network

interface controller and the second network interface controller operate under a ~~remote~~

~~direct memory access~~ <u>Remote Direct Memory Access</u> (RDMA) protocol;

passing the identifier to the program component;

querying the first network interface controller to supply the program

component with a list of identifiers generated by the first network interface controller and

associated memory locations in <u>a memory of the</u> multiple network interface device

~~memory~~;

identifying, by the program component, that the first network interface controller generated the identifier; and

transmitting the memory location associated with the identifier to the second network interface controller, wherein the second network interface controller <u>subsequently</u> transmits the associated data field to the memory location.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1<u>,</u> wherein the identifier is invalidated under control of a bit field added to the identifier and the associated data field received from the second device.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2<u>,</u> wherein if the identifier has been invalidated, the associated data field is discarded.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1<u>,</u> wherein the memory ~~location~~ is ~~random access memory~~ <u>Random Access Memory</u>.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1<u>,</u> wherein the program component is a computer operating system.

6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network interface

controller and the second network interface controller operate under the RDMA protocol

over TCP/IP protocol.

8.   (Currently Amended) A method for transferring control between a first network

interface controller and at least a second network interface controller in a host computer

including the first network interface controller and the second network interface

controller, the method comprising:

        receiving an identifier and an associated data field from a remote computer by

the at least a second network interface controller, the identifier generated by the first

network interface controller and associated with a memory location in the host

computer, wherein the second network interface controller has no knowledge of the

identifier and the associated data field, and wherein the first network interface controller

and the second network interface controller operate under a remote direct memory

access Remote Direct Memory Access (RDMA) protocol;

        sending a message to a program component of the host computer indicating the

reception of the identifier;

        the program component queries querying the first network interface controller for

a list of identifiers generated by the first network interface controller and associated

memory locations in a memory of the host computer;

        passing the identifier received from the remote computer to the program

component;

searching the list of identifiers for the identifier;

when the list of identifiers includes the identifier received from the remote

computer, <u>the second network interface controller</u> receiving [[a]] <u>the</u> memory location

associated with the identifier <u>and subsequently transmitting the associated data field to</u>

<u>the memory location</u>; and

when the list of identifiers does not include the identifier received from the remote

computer, invalidating the identifier received from the remote computer.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8<u>,</u> wherein the identifier is invalidated

under control of a bit field added to the identifier and ~~an~~ <u>the</u> associated data field

received from the remote computer.

10.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9<u>,</u> wherein if the identifier has been

invalidated, the associated data field is discarded.

11.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8<u>,</u> wherein the memory ~~location~~ is

~~random access memory~~ <u>Random Access Memory</u>.

12.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8<u>,</u> wherein the program component is

a computer operating system.

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the first network interface

controller and the second network interface controller operate under ~~a remote direct~~

~~memory access (RDMA)~~ the RDMA protocol over TCP/IP protocol.

15.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored therein

instructions for performing acts for transferring control between a first network interface

controller and at least a second network interface controller in a multiple network

interface device, the acts comprising:

        after the first network interface controller sends an identifier associated with a

memory location in the multiple network interface device to a second device and the

identifier and an associated data field are subsequently received by the second network

interface controller in the multiple network interface device from the second device,

            receiving a message from the second network interface controller by a

program component in the multiple network interface device, the message indicating the

reception of the identifier associated with the memory location in the multiple network

interface device and the associated data field from the second device, wherein the

second network interface controller has no knowledge of the identifier and the

associated data field, and wherein the first network interface controller and the second

network interface controller operate under a ~~remote direct memory access~~ Remote

Direct Memory Access (RDMA) protocol;

            passing the identifier to the program component;

querying the first network interface controller to supply the program

component with a list of identifiers generated by the first network interface controller and

associated memory locations in <u>a memory of the</u> multiple network interface device

~~memory~~;

identifying, by the program component, that the first network interface

controller generated the identifier; and

transmitting the memory location associated with the identifier to the

second network interface controller, wherein the second network interface controller

<u>subsequently</u> transmits the associated data field to the memory location.

16.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the

identifier is invalidated under control of a bit field added to the identifier and the

associated data field received from the second device.

17.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein if the

identifier has been invalidated, the associated data field is discarded.

18.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the

memory ~~location~~ is ~~random access memory~~ <u>Random Access Memory</u>.

19.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the

program component is a computer operating system.

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the

first network interface controller and the second network interface controller operate

under the RDMA protocol over TCP/IP protocol.

22.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored therein

instructions for performing acts for transferring control between a first network interface

controller and at least a second network interface controller in a host computer including

the first network interface controller and the second network interface controller, the

~~method~~ acts comprising:

        receiving an identifier and an associated data field from a remote computer by

the ~~at least a~~ second network interface controller, the identifier generated by the first

network interface controller and associated with a memory location in the host

computer, wherein the second network interface controller has no knowledge of the

identifier and the associated data field, and wherein the first network interface controller

and the second network interface controller operate under a ~~remote direct memory~~

~~access~~ Remote Direct Memory Access (RDMA) protocol;

        sending a message to a program component of the host computer indicating the

reception of the identifier;

the program component ~~queries~~ querying the first network interface controller for

a list of identifiers generated by the first network interface controller and associated

memory locations in a memory of the host computer;

passing the identifier received from the remote computer to the program

component;

searching the list of identifiers for the identifier;

when the list of identifiers includes the identifier received from the remote

computer, the second network interface controller receiving [[a]] the memory location

associated with the identifier and subsequently transmitting the associated data field to

the memory location; and

when the list of identifiers does not include the identifier received from the remote

computer, invalidating the identifier received from the remote computer.

23.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the

identifier is invalidated under control of a bit field added to the identifier and the

associated data field received from the ~~second device~~ remote computer.

24.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein if the

identifier has been invalidated, the associated data field is discarded.

25.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the

memory ~~location~~ is ~~random access memory~~ Random Access Memory.

26.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the

program component is a computer operating system.

27.   (Canceled)

28.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the

first network interface controller and the second network interface controller operate

under the RDMA protocol over TCP/IP protocol.

Comments regarding proposed claim amendments

As to claim 1 and claim 15 by extension, adding the word "subsequently" in two instances is proposed to clearly indicate timing of events.

As to claim 8 and claim 22 by extension, separating limitations of "sending a message" and "the program component querying the first network interface controller" is proposed to clearly indicate separate steps in the claim; specifying that the second network interface controller receives the memory location and the following action taken by the second network interface controller is proposed to avoid ambiguity as to which device/component receives the memory location (or invalidates the identifier) and also to maintain consistency with independent claims 1 and 15.

The purpose of other proposed amendments is to provide a proper antecedent basis, to correct minor informalities, and to maintain consistency between four sets of claims.

As to all the dependent claims, adding a comma is proposed.